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REF LD549 ON SOURCELINE DEFINITIONS:

AN OFFICIAL BROADCAST IS ONE HAVING PROGRAM PRODUCTION UNDER THE ACKNOWLEDGED CONTROL OF THE CHIEF BROADCASTING COMPONENT OF A GOVERNMENT OR OF A QUASI-GOVERNMENTAL OR SEMI-GOVERNMENTAL CORPORATION OR INSTITUTE. EXAMPLES ARE RADIO MOSCOW, BBC, NHK, AND RADIO HABANA CUBA.

WE ARE RECONSIDERING THE DEFINITION OF AN OFFICIAL PRESSCAST AND WOULD WELCOME BBC'S THOUGHTS ON THE SUBJECT. WE WANT TO LIMIT ITS APPLICATION TO THOSE PRESSCASTS WHICH CAN BE RELIED ON TO ARTICULATE A GOVERNMENT'S POINT OF VIEW. TASS AND NCNA WOULD QUALIFY FOR INCLUSION

AND SO WOULD DIPLOMATIC INFORMATION SERVICES. WE ARE NOT CERTAIN ABOUT NOVOSTI AND THE CHINA NEWS SERVICE, HOWEVER. IF THESE AGENCIES TRANSMITTED MATERIAL WHICH VARIED SUBSTANTIALLY FROM TASS AND NCNA VERSIONS, IT WOULD BE THE OUTPUT OF THE LATTER AGENCIES THAT WE WOULD REGARD AS OFFICIAL.

SEMI-OFFICIAL BROADCASTS AND PRESSCASTS ARE THOSE CONTROLLED BY GOVERNMENTAL FACTIONS NOT SPECIALIZING IN BROADCASTING OR THE DISSEMINATION OF NEWS AND THOSE THE CONTROL OF WHICH IS NOT ACKNOWLEDGED BY THE GOVERNMENT. EXAMPLES ARE RADIO PEACE AND PROGRESS, THE MILITARY STATIONS IN THAILAND, AND CAIRO PALESTINE RADIO.

NON-OFFICIAL AND PRIVATE SERVICES ARE VIRTUALLY IDENTICAL. THEY COMPRISE THOSE SERVICES WHICH OSTENSIBLY ARE CONTROLLED BY COMMERCIAL, RELIGIOUS, EDUCATIONAL, OR PHILANTHROPIC ORGANIZATIONS, OPPOSITION PARTIES, ETC.

CLANDESTINE BROADCASTS AND PRESS CASTS PRETEND TO BE (OR SOMETIMES ACTUALLY ARE) OPERATING FROM THE TERRITORY OF A HOSTILE GOVERNMENT. THOSE WHICH ARE COVERT INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTS VIOLATE INTERNATIONAL LAW RELATING TO TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND PROPAGANDA. THOSE WHICH TRULY ARE FUGITIVE OPERATIONS VIOLATE THE LAWS OF THE COUNTRY FROM WHICH THEY OPERATE. 14/2037Z OCT